DR. S. JOHN: *(a)* Yes.

(b) 27th September 1945.

(c) & *(d)* Government have decided that the above question will be taken up after the new dispensaries for which Government have already accorded sanction are opened.

MR. K. G. KESAVAN NAIR: May I know the number of dispensaries for which Government have already given sanction.

DR. S. JOHN: 10 to 11 dispensaries are sanctioned.

MR. K. G. KESAVAN NAIR: May I know the approximate time by which these dispensaries will be opened?

DR. S. JOHN: That will depend upon the public. If they put up the buildings and supply the furniture and of course, if I get hands, I will be able to recommend for their appointment.

MR. K. G. KESAVAN NAIR: May I know whether in case the public of the locality are prepared to put up the buildings and give site, the dispensary in question will be opened shortly?

DR. S. JOHN: I cannot guarantee that.

Orphanages in the State.

257. *MR. P. O. THOMAS: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the number of orphanages in the State which receive grants from the Government in 1121;

(b) the number of orphans in such institutions;

(c) the average grant per head given by Government in 1121; and

(d) the average grant per head given in 1122?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI (*Director of Public Instruction*): *(a)* 12.

(b) 556.

(c) Rs. 6-15-1.

(d) Rs. 5-19-13.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know from the member whether he is aware that the cost of living has increased at least four-fold between the period 1112 and 1121?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: Yes, the cost of living has increased.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know whether Government have cared to increase the grant proportionate to the increase in the cost of living?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: A slight increase has been made,

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know from the member the actual increase made per head?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: It is the difference between (c) & (d).

MR. P. O. THOMAS: It is 15 annas per individual per year. Is it the increase, Sir?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: I should think so.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know whether Government feel that this increase is highly inadequate in view to the high increase in the cost of living?

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MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: We have increased and if we think that a further increase is necessary, that will be considered.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know whether he feels that a further increase is actually necessary?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: It is a matter of opinion.

Question papers.

258. ✱ MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they are aware that only half the required number of question papers in Arithmetic for this year's annual English Middle School Examination was sent to the Eraviperur School; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the department in the matter?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: *(a)* There was a shortage of 100 question papers in Mathematics for the English Middle School examination at the Eraviperoor centre which is less than 25 per cent. of the number of papers required.

(b) Necessary steps were taken to see that candidates concerned did not suffer on this account.

Text Books Committee.

259. ✱MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the Text-Book Committee met for the purpose of appointing persons to write text books for classes 3, 4 and 5 of the primary schools; and

(b) the reason for the delay in getting the text books ready in time?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: *(a)* The Text-Book Committee did not meet for the purpose of appointing persons to write text-books for classes 3, 4 and 5 of the primary schools.

(b) New text-books in accordance with the report of the Education Re-organization Committee, are required in class I only this school year; and that has been published already.

Grant-in-aid reading rooms.

260. ✱ MR. CHAZHIKKATTU JOSEPH: Will the Government be pleased to state the number of grant-in-aid reading rooms in Travancore and the annual total amount given to them?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: The member is referred to Appendix T of the Administration Report of the Education Department for the year 1120 M. E.

E. S. L. C. Examination.

261. ✱ MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI: Will the Government be pleased to state the number of the candidates who appeared for the last E. S. L. C. Examination from each of the Pulaya, Paraya and Kurava communities, and the number that passed?

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